

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 30 AUG 49

SUBJECT Enlargement of Soviet Troop Training
Grounds near Lieberose

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE 25X1

NO. OF ENCL.
(LISTED BELOW)

ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

from the Lieberose-Pietz (A49-58) rail line to Butzen and Byhlen (A48). Dimensions are: north-south, 6 km; east-west, 9 km. The center of the range has been completely deforested. Remaining wooded areas contain tanks parked in groups of 20-30, well camouflaged against observation and guarded by small units billeted in block houses. Small ammunition bunkers are located at various points. On 13 July, groups of 10 to 25 tanks, mainly T-34/85's with some JS-1 and JS-2, were at target practice in this sector.

2. The troop area runs 4 km north-south and 5 km east-west in a wooded area near Schwansee where, it is alleged, the CG of the grounds, has his residence. Here 500 barracks have been built and 200 more are under construction. Built of wood, each barracks can accommodate 80 men. According to a construction foreman, the training ground is being designed to hold 40,000 troops; at present there are 17,000-19,000 on hand. The camp is to have its own light and power installation, a large bakery is being established, wells are being dug, and watch towers set up. The majority of troops are expected to come from armored units in the Cottbus region, but some have arrived from Frankfurt/Oder and others, in small numbers, from Fürstenwalde. [REDACTED] two groups from Frankfurt/Oder, each consisting of 100-150 EM with several officers, coming in 4-6 hours apart.

3. Armored troops constituted 70 percent of those observed, which included numerous engineers and construction personnel. Many local residents have been conscripted and labor in three shifts, night work being done under searchlights. A special narrow gauge railway hauls in construction material from Straupitz (A38).

4. Reported to be within the grounds are a ration dump at the Jamlitz concentration camp (A59); a large fuel dump, site unknown; a parking space in the woods east of the Lieberose-Ullersdorf (V50) rail line containing seventy JS-1 and JS-2 tanks, thirty 100 mm AT guns, and twenty 122 mm rocket launchers; [REDACTED] wooded area along the Lieberose-Guben (A70) road, blocked off for 8 km, and said to hold 500-600 tanks, 80-90 rocket launchers, and assorted weapons and vehicles.

5. All trucks (80 percent Soviet Fords) entering the area were loaded with building material, food, assorted supplies, and an unusual amount of furniture. [REDACTED]

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